News-item captioned 'No Rise IDA Loan for India'

2336. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the *Hindustan Times* of the 31st January, 1986 captioned "No rise in IDA loan for India", if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The two-day meeting of the donor nations for the Eighth Replenishment of IDA which was held in **Paris on** 27-28th January, 1986 was primarily intended for discussing the lending criteria and a range for the size of IDA-8. No decision on the size of IDA-8 or India's share in it is reported to have been taken in that meeting. IDA-8 is expected to come into effect from 1st July, 1987 and the negotiations for the Eigth Replenishment have been initiated by the donor countries only recently.

(b) India is engaged in a dialogue with major donor countries of IDA-VIII.

Removal of restrictions on Inter-State Movement of Foodgrains

2337. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to remove restrictions on inter-State movement of foodgrains so as to reduce disparity between surplus and deficit areas and also to ease the problem of storage;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) The country is treated as one zone for the movement of wheat and rice. There is no restriction on the movement of coarse-grains except from Madhya Pradesh where there is a small export levy on maize and jowar. Inter-State movement restrictions on paddy have been removed by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations except Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, who have been allowed, at their request, to retain the restrictions.

Facilities to mining workers

2338. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether upper wage limit for extension of various facilities to mining workers under the welfare Fund Scheme has been raised; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For extension of various facilities to the workers of Limestone and Dolomite Mines, Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines, and Mica Mines under the Welfare Fund Schemes upper wage limit has been revised from Rs. 1250/- to Rs. 1600 p.m.